

Minutes of the
North Dakota Educational Technology Council Meeting

Thursday, November 21, 2002 8:00-12:00 AM
 Videoconference
 At
 Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks, Valley City, Williston

Lisa Feldner, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

Members present:	Jerry Bartholomay	Lisa Feldner	Laurie Martin
	Tom Cummings	Chris Kalash	Bev Nielson
	Tom Eberle	Kevin Keenaghan	Wayne Sanstead

Members absent:	Grant Crawford	Wayne Kutzer	Curt Wolfe
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Guests present:	Dan Pullen – ETC	Pam Sharp – OMB
	Mike Ressler – ITD	Jody French – EduTech
	Doug McCrory – DPI	Don Simon – EduTech
	Greg Gallagher - DPI	John Geiser – EduTech
	Nancy Walz – ITD	Neil Howe – NDIS
	Mark Wilson - VocEd	Deborah Janzen - ETC

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented by consensus.

Consent Agenda includes the approval of the August 9, 2002 meeting minutes and the financial Report. Bev Nielson moved to approve the consent agenda items. Laurie Martin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (Yes: Bartholomay, Cummings, Eberle, Feldner, Kalash, Keenaghan, Nielson, Martin; No: none; Absent: Crawford, Sanstead, Kutzer, Wolfe)

Recognition activities: The State of North Dakota STAGEnet received the Award of Excellence from the PolyCom Corporation. The award recognizes North Dakota STAGEnet for its continuing commitment to enhancing learning for all of North Dakota's residents through the use of video communications technology.

Old Business:

Linkage Reporting Schedule - Chris Kalash moved to approve the linkage reporting schedule as determined at the August 9, 2002 meeting. Tom Eberle seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (Yes: Bartholomay, Cummings, Eberle, Feldner, Kalash, Keenaghan, Nielson, Martin; No: none; Absent: Crawford, Sanstead, Kutzer, Wolfe)

New Business:

K-12 administrative/data collection initiatives/issues

Dan Pullen reported that K-12 schools are collecting and reporting data for a variety of levels of government agencies. This data collection and reporting is a burden on school districts as the same data is required for multiple reports in multiple formats entailing multiple data entry.

The following reports contain information to help the ETC come to some conclusions about the role ETC could play in coordinating the collection, access and analysis of the data. Dan Pullen recommends a committee to deal with coordination the data collection.

Vocational ed – Mark Wilson (SBVTE) reported that the Federal government requires data for two general areas: 1) basic enrollment information and 2) core indicators. The basic enrollment information is required on students in grades 9-12. The cord indicators are: academic achievement, skill accomplishment, placement, and participation/completion. Student follow-up studies are completed tracking further education and career placement.

Tetradata – Greg Gallagher (DPI) reported that Tetradata was selected by the state to collect and compile data for both state and local information needs. This software may meet a long-standing need to gather, access and analyze data. Tetradata gathers student data on state assessment, demographics, types of courses, and teachers/staff.

Other DPI initiatives – Doug McCrory (DPI) reported on many online systems that collect data: child nutrition, transportation, teacher compensation, employee compensation, class size, calendar/schedule, professional development, open enrollment, suspension/expulsion, and truancy. NCA collects school improvement data directly from schools.

PowerSchool – Don Simon (EduTech) reported on the basic functions of PowerSchool and the implementation status. PowerSchool gathers information for school administration, students, teachers and parents. The modules currently in use include scheduling, grade book and attendance. The lunch module is in process.

ConnectND – (ERP) Pam Sharp (OMB) described the software, PeopleSoft, purchased for state government and higher education use. This software includes a module on human resources and financial management and student administration. The HR and financial management modules could also be used by K-12 schools.

NDITD – Nancy Walz outlined the process used in ITD to develop data collection in criminal justice departments. The process began two years ago with funding to plan a governance structure. A committee structure evolved into the executive order and memo of understanding, which is now moving toward inclusion in the statutes. This model may be appropriate for coordinator of data collection efforts in K-12.

Bev Nielson moved to formulate an ETC committee to study the data collection initiatives collection and processes and determine ways to streamline to better serve K-12 schools. Chris Kalash seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (Yes: Bartholomay, Cummings, Eberle, Feldner, Kalash, Keenaghan, Nielson, Martin; No: none; Absent: Crawford, Sanstead, Kutzer, Wolfe) Dan Pullen and Lisa Feldner will determine the membership of the committee.

Internet filtering – Jody French presented three areas of concern regarding Internet filtering.

- Does EduTech have the authority to provide Internet filtering for STAGEnet?
- Do the policies approved by SchoolNet continue to be valid for STAGEnet?
- Who should hear Internet filter appeals?

Jody requested two motions to 1) establish EduTech as the agency authorized to provide Internet filtering and 2) establish a committee to review current policies and recommend new policies dealing with Internet filtering.

Kevin Keenaghan moved to authorize EduTech to provide Internet filtering for STAGEnet.

Laurie Martin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (Yes: Bartholomay, Cummings, Eberle, Feldner, Kalash, Keenaghan, Nielson, Martin, Sanstead; No: none; Absent: Crawford, Kutzer, Wolfe)

Bev Nielson moved to formulate an ETC committee to review current policies and recommend new policies dealing with Internet filtering, including but not limited to determine a mechanism to consider appeals. Laurie Martin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (Yes: Bartholomay, Cummings, Eberle, Feldner, Kalash, Keenaghan, Nielson, Martin, Sanstead; No: none; Absent: Crawford, Kutzer, Wolfe)

Revised state education technology plan – Dan Pullen presented an update on the revision process for the State Education Technology plan. He hopes to have a draft ready for public comment within the month.

ETC Legislative Message – Dan Pullen requests a committee to put together a legislative message and to present this message to the legislature. Kevin Keenaghan agreed to lead this committee. Bev Nielson moved to formulate an ETC committee to prepare a presentation and then present that information to the legislature. Tom Eberle seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (Yes: Bartholomay, Cummings, Eberle, Feldner, Kalash, Keenaghan, Nielson, Martin, Sanstead; No: none; Absent: Crawford, Kutzer, Wolfe)

Travel expenses for the ETC Director during the legislative session – Dan Pullen asked for discussion on the higher level of travel expenses. In addition to mileage and per diem, council members expressed their willingness to provide compensation for lodging expenses. No motion was needed on this issue.

Policy Reviews – the following policies were considered. No action was requested.

Executive Limitations

EL-4	Staff Treatment
EL-5	Staff Compensation
EL-6	Staff Evaluation
EL-9	Asset Protection

Results Policies – Dan Pullen reported on the results policies 1-5. Adding information to the council on the status of each of the policies.

- R-1 – He is compiling a list of reports that document progress for the issues in R-1
- R-2 – He will be presenting a detailed report in a future meeting on how data is collected and how it is able to be collected.
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- R-3 – This result policy may need to be included in R-2 in the future. At present it is necessary to have it separate, but that may not always be the case.
- R-4 – The issue of annual changes may be difficult to achieve. IT may be difficult to get valid data to document “Efficiently”.
- R-5 – ETC has no direct responsibility on security breaches and on the amount of system downtime.

The director’s intention is to report more fully in summer of 2003.

Council and Staff Reports

NDSBA – Bev Nielson explained that the mission of the ND School Board Association is to promote quality education through local government. To accomplish this mission NDSBA provides training for local school boards mostly on governing. This association addresses concerns at the policy level. Local school boards have the financial responsibility for providing technology, giving attention to technology and the delivery of courses. The NDSBA has no specific technology issues that they are supporting as they address the legislature in the forthcoming biennium.

NDCEL – Kevin Kennaghan described the mission of the ND Council of Educational Leaders. This mission, as described on the NDCEL website, “is to protect educational leaders’ interest and make their interest known in all educational matters in North Dakota.” NDCEL represents nine affiliate North Dakota associations:

Assn of School Administrators	Assn of Technology Leaders
Assn of Secondary School Principals	Assn of Special Education Study Council
Assn of Elementary School Principals	Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Assn
Assn of County Superintendents	Council of Local Administrators
Assn of School Business Officials	

The NDCEL’s legislative message addresses school finance, reform, administrative credentials, retirement, professional development, school calendar/year/day, and a variety of other issues as describes on the NDCEL website. www.ndcel.org

DPI – Chris Kalash reported on funding available as part of No Child Left Behind law. These funds are Title II part D. The DPI staff is determining who is eligible to apply for the grant monies. The goal of much of the funding is for disadvantaged students. The technology related issue that DPI is addressing with the 2003 legislature is related to North Dakota teaching licensure in regard to distance education.

NDEA– Laurie Martin gave highlights of the documents she provided to the Council. She made note of the “highly-qualified” or “not highly-qualified” issue for middle and secondary teachers from the Educational Standards and Practices Board. The NDEA document was distributed at the October NDEA conference.

Non-Public Schools– Tom Eberle outlined the State Association of Non-public School accomplishments during the last two years. He also mentioned the SANS brochure as distributed to the Council.

Special Education– Tom Cummings presented general information on ND Special Education Study Council. Assistive technology is the major technology issue. Other technology related issues are included on the attached document.

EduTech– Jody French pointed out her written document distributed to the Council. She also sent a document on a virus protection plan. * (Jody submitted a document to be attached to the minutes after the meeting.)

NDIS – Neil Howe drew attention to the NDIS Annual Report distributed to the Council.

Director’s Report – Dan Pullen commented on the annual report sent to the Council. “Connections for Improved Student Learning” summarizes the past accomplishments and outlines future goals.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday February 05, 2003 from 1:00-5:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00.

Minutes by Deborah Janzen

Approved February 5, 2003